

sense of pride in my heart. We must never forget the innocent lives that were lost. We must hold the thoughts of these victims in our hearts forever.

My prayers go out to the families and friends of the victims of these horrific events. On that day when their freedom was denied and their lives destroyed, must serve as motivation to restore the very principles for which this country was originally founded. Yet it is certain that this is a very important and difficult issue to resolve. While the administration strategically prepares to protect our country, we must now protect the rights of these victims. We owe this to our citizens. Tax relief for these victims is a must. It now is time to rebuild America to restore the liberty and justice for all.

While the World Trade Center no longer is standing, the Statue of Liberty stands strong for the remembrance of each of you. Mr. Speaker, Justice and human decency will prevail for all allowing, us to all heal in time.

HONORING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF THE PORT OF OAKLAND,
CHARLES W. FOSTER, ON HIS RE-
TIREMENT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2001

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and a long valued member of the Oakland and Bay Area community, Chuck Foster, Executive Director of the Port of Oakland who is retiring from the Port after a long and distinguished career.

Mr. Foster arrived in the Bay Area more than thirty years ago, having been stationed there during his service as a Naval aviator. He joined the Naval Reserves upon release from active duty and retired 15 years later with the rank of Captain.

Given Mr. Foster's substantial aviation training while in the Navy, it is natural that much of his career after leaving the Navy focused on transportation matters, especially those in aviation. He served as the Assistant Director of Aviation at San Jose International Airport before being appointed the Director of Aviation at Oakland International Airport. He held that position for five years, until he was promoted to Deputy Executive Director of the Port. In 1995, the Board of Port Commissioners of the Port of Oakland appointed Mr. Foster Executive Director, responsible for the overall management of the Port's aviation, maritime and commercial real estate divisions and all aspects of Port administration.

My friend Chuck Foster provided a unique combination of leadership and commitment that has nurtured the growth of the Port of Oakland, and in turn, the Bay Area region. Under his skillful leadership, the Port of Oakland's three divisions experienced extensive growth and the Port embarked upon an extensive, unprecedented expansion.

During Mr. Foster's administration, Oakland International Airport has proposed a terminal expansion and reconfiguration project, as well as the development of a light-rail rapid transit link between BART and the airport. Additionally, the Port's Maritime Division acquired four

of the world's largest Super Panamax cranes, initiated the deepening of Oakland Harbor to 50 feet and converted 530 acres of military land into commercial terminal facilities which serves as a model of base-closure economic conversion. Presently, the Commercial Real Estate Division has begun its project to convert more than 1000 acres of property into a thriving waterfront neighborhood.

Chuck Foster's dedication and service to the Bay Area community does not end with his efforts at the Port of Oakland. Throughout his career, he has served on various boards and otherwise been active with numerous business and charitable community organizations. Whether his talents are directed towards his efforts with the Oakland Chamber of Commerce, California Council for International Trade, International House at the University of California, Berkeley or the Summit/Alta Bates Medical Center, he has approached all of these activities with the same dedication, vision and passion.

Over his career, Mr. Foster has traveled extensively throughout the world, and his success in his business dealings for the Port is matched only by his role as an ambassador for the Bay Area and the Nation. He is the best of what America has to offer the world—committed to partnership and sound relations with those who are engaged in the growing world community.

I am most appreciative to Chuck for the way he has attempted to address the needs and concerns of the residents of Oakland, particularly in West Oakland. The presence of residential neighborhoods in areas adjacent to industrial activity will always create tension and Oakland has been no exception. However, Mr. Foster saw to it that community groups had not only a voice, but a role to play in the Port's various activities and expansion projects. He has always sought to achieve a proper balance between economic growth and community needs. He formed community advisory panels for both the airport and seaport development planning processes and opened a Port office in the West Oakland neighborhood most impacted by the Port's maritime activity to ensure appropriate community outreach. These efforts have created an atmosphere of more than simply goodwill, but one of cooperation and a sense of community.

Mr. Speaker, as Charles Foster leaves behind a long and rich history at the Port of Oakland, I would ask that Congress join me in expressing our thanks to him for his 15 years of service there and his earlier contributions to the nation in uniformed and civilian life. I am proud to recognize Chuck Foster's esteemed accomplishments and to extend my best wishes to him in his well-earned retirement.

PROVIDING FOR EXPEDITED PAY-
MENT OF CERTAIN BENEFITS
FOR PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS
KILLED OR INJURED IN CONNEC-
TION WITH TERRORIST ATTACKS
OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to express my support of H.R.

2882, to ensure that our public safety workers have coverage as a result of the recent terrorist acts. It is my belief that it is our responsibility to redress this situation in a timely fashion.

At the onset of the horror that we experienced on the eleventh day of this month, a victory was won in the hearts of all Americans. These brave individuals are winning the War each and every second. True honor and patriotism shall be bestowed upon them. By now, we have all seen the bravery and extraordinary effort that the Fire Fighters and Police Officers in New York and Washington as well as the rescue workers in these areas. The amount of courage that has been displayed by these individuals is incredible and will forever be remembered. It is now our responsibility in light of the current circumstances to make sure that the families of these public safety workers feel the confidence that the Congress will help ease their burden. I commend each and every one of these workers and their commitment to excellence as shown over these events.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, join me in praising our fallen public safety officers for their extraordinary commitment to the community. They have earned and deserve our recognition, respect and praise. We will never forget these workers.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS
THAT EVERY CITIZEN IS EN-
COURAGED TO DISPLAY THE
FLAG

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the September 11, 2001, World Trade Center and Pentagon tragedies, including the aircraft crash in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, will forever scar the face of democracy, freedom, and the circle of human dignity. But as a nation of Americans who have faced the greatest degree of adversity throughout our history, we shall, once again, overcome.

This legislation demonstrates to ourselves and to the world, our collective resolve to overcome this tragedy and to stay the course in our journey to the mountaintop, so that all peoples of the world may one day live free from the tyranny of hopelessness, lawlessness, and apartheid.

In our unified show of support for the sacrifice made in the name of freedom, by those we have lost, we ask all people of this great Nation, regardless of race, color, economic status, or religious denomination, to fly the American flag for the next 30 days.

I urge my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to support this legislation.